

EMS Administrative Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 8th, 2020 1:00 pm

Flathead County Office of Emergency Services

Members Present: Dr. Wayne Miller, Amy Vanterpool, Jordan Owen, Mary Granger, Dr. Richard Briles (called in on GoToMeetings)

Others Present: Jennifer Rau, Juanita Nelson, Linda Chambers

1. **1:01:15 Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Wayne Miller at 1:01:15 pm. without Ryan Pitts or Jacob Pitcher
2. **Roll Call**
3. **1:01:39 Approval of Agenda:** Approved as amended and received
4. **1:01:55 Approval of Previous Minutes:** August 11, 2020 minutes Approved
5. **1:02:00 Public Comment for Items Not Listed on Agenda:** none
6. **1:02:10 Financial Report:** Juanita Nelson presented the financial reports from 6/30/2020 and 11/30/2020.
Fund 2272: At the end of the fiscal year there was a cash balance of 67.82 % so the full mill may not have been levied for FY2021. Current expenses for Fund 2272 are at 27.13%
Fund 2273: A budget amendment will be submitted to finance to increase the spending authority by \$27,906.00. This will increase the total approved budget for FY2021 to \$564,500.00. The increase in spending authority would reduce the projected cash balance from \$112,654.32 (20.99%) to \$84,748.32 (15.01%).
Fund 4019: FY2021 didn't budget any expenditures, but a boiler for the building failed and had to be replaced. A CIP Amendment request was submitted and approved by the Board of Commissioners. This was a cost share between OES, EMS, FSA, and FECC.
7. **1:10:17 EMS Advisory Committee Report:** Jordan Owen presented an update.
The Advisory committee met on 12/7/2020 and discussed updates on the MCI policy and protocols updates. Requirements regarding covid-19 vaccines were also discussed. KRMC is getting vaccines. Jordan Owen is not aware of any direct link between Covid positive patients and EMS personnel getting sick.
8. **1:15:56 EMS Program Manager Report:** Jordan Owen presented the report. The focus of the EMS program has included managing the badging and credentialing process, managing some upcoming classes, working on the MCI policy, planning future classes, and working on the levy distributions. The EMR class that was approved by the board has finished. An update on the EMS certifications was reviewed with info from the badging and credentialing project. It is unknown if the numbers for State License renewals next year are normally this high, as this is the first time these numbers have been available.
Case Reviews: Jordan Owen has done several case reviews with Dr. Briles. The white channel recordings have been useful. Jordan Owen and Dr. Briles have been able to coach people and direct them back to the protocols. There has been good reception to the correction and education. If there is a process problem, they can look at that as well. Issues are discussed with the involved crew and chief. If there is a more overarching problem, then it is addressed to the entire group of EMS. Some of this is done in person and some done virtually, in a secure way to protect HIPAA.
Medical Special ALS Calls: The daily average is 6 Medical Special ALS calls. This provides a way to monitor Covid. A new process has been created for crews to get the Covid status of a patient from the hospital. Crews weren't being advised through official channels if a patient was positive. The main concern is if there was a breach in PPE or an aerosolizing procedure was done. Positive tests are reported to the Flathead City-County Health Department. They are so backed up that they are relying on patients to do contact notification. Ambulance personnel are not being considered in that process. Jordan Owen can give guidance and get help with mitigation from Flathead City-County Health Department. EMS can use a work quarantine for essential workers to keep crews working. Exposures are considered to be different from interactions for crews. This is working fine for now.

9. **1:41:33 EMS Medical Director Report:** Dr. Briles presented this report.
Covid: The contact tracing with EMS process was outlined. The Flathead has over 20% test positive rate for Covid. With a high test rate, it is just assumed most everyone has it. EMS have to be protected if doing an aerosolizing procedure. If PPE is used, then people are not impacted if the person is positive.
Badging and Credentialing: Some departments that initially complied with the badging and credentialing project are now having some issues regarding updating people's credentials. Dr. Briles is working with those departments and feels overall the process is working.
Protocols: Dr. Briles is working on procedures for ground transports from out of county coming into Flathead County. They need to contact medical control (the closest hospital) to decide a destination, not have individual ambulance crews decide. Dr. Briles has handled a few disciplinary issues where protocols were violated. He consulted with the chief. Dr. Briles has been working on the protocols tweaking them with Covid so prevalent. TXA was being given for GI bleeding but it doesn't show benefits so it is being removed from the protocols.
10. **Review of EMS Multi-Casualty Incident Policies (in draft):** tabled until next meeting
11. **2:02:55 EMS Levy Distribution Approval**
The same formula was used as in the past. There were no major conflicts with department reports. Changes in specific numbers of responses by agencies aren't anticipated. Mary Granger made a motion to approve the EMS Levy Distribution, with the Chair's oversight which will be Dr. Miller reviewing with Jordan Owen any changes that are made regardless of how minor. Amy Vanterpool seconded. Motion carried.
12. **2:06:08 Approval to extend use of EMS Administrative Assistant**
Jordan Owen requested to extend the Administrative Assistant up to 6 months until the OES Administrative Assistant position is created and filled. The OES position will be a full time position which will fulfill the EMS position. Amy Vanterpool moved to approve to extend the use of the EMS Administrative Assistant up to 6 months until the OES Administrative Assistant position is created and filled. Mary Granger seconded the motion. Motion carried.
13. **2:09:22 Critical Care Course Reimbursement/Payment Approval:**
The focus will be on interfacility critical care transfers. Best Practice Medicine will be teaching the class. Amy Vanterpool made a motion to approve the Critical Care Reimbursement/ Payment. Mary Granger seconded the motion. Motion carried.
14. **2:15:40 Mobile Data Terminal (Crew Force) funding proposal:**
A Mobile Data Terminal app has come out to give accessibility to the CAD. Benefits: 1. It allows responders to get extra information given to the 911 operator, real time viewing of the call progression. 2. Locating incidents is more precise especially using mile markers. 3. It has status buttons on it to alleviate radio traffic. 4. The Mobile Data Terminal shows the history of the call and gives the times for EMS to use for Rip and Run report.

Six agencies are interested in this technology if the county helps. The Sheriff's Dept. is also looking at this for its deputies. Ultimately, they could share setup and hosting fee costs. The sales quote was reviewed. Discussion ensued. Mary Granger made a motion to table the vote on the Mobile Data Terminal (Crew Force) funding proposal to a future meeting when the expenses could be more concrete and details figured out including how many departments would be participating. Amy Vanterpool seconded the Motion. Motion carried. Jordan Owen will get the details figured out then call a special meeting. He will email documents and have a meeting or use GoToMeeting.
15. **Future Agenda Items:** none
16. **Board Member Comments:**
Mary Granger's term ends this month. She doesn't know if she will be back.
Wayne Miller is concerned with the commissioner's relationship with the health department. Miller intends to resign from his position as of December 30th, 2020 or until a replacement can be found for his position. He is no longer willing to work with the commissioners. He will notify the commissioners of his intention to resign.
17. **Future Meeting Date:** January 12th, 2021 will be the next meeting
18. **Adjournment:** 2:50pm